

# Arden Civic Committee Agenda

Wednesday, February 24, 2021

7:30 p.m. via Zoom Meeting

## Call to Order

## Approval of January 27, 2021 Minutes

### Categories

- Administrative
  - Budget Status
- Primary Discussion Issues:
  - Snow Plowing and Salting
  - Candidates
- Roads
  - Marsh Road Fire Lane
  - Potholes and Sinkhole
  - Master Plan
- Projects / Grants
  - Water Management Grant
- Permits / Reservations
- Maintenance Projects (Status)
  - Sign Post Repair & Dave Claney Status
  - Signs
  - Trash Can Holders
- Tree Work
  - White Pine on Village Green
  - Lower Lane
  - Follow-up on Identified Trees
- Greens
- Seasonal Contract Oversight
- Miscellaneous
  - FOIA Request

## Other Old Business

## New Business

## Adjourn

### Zoom Meeting Information

Meeting Link:

<https://zoom.us/j/480638694?pwd=SEE5dEZmN09jaFNQeUZCSE1OWIFsUT09>

Meeting ID: 480 638 694

Password: 537947

One tap mobile

+13126266799,,480638694# US (Chicago)

+16468769923,,480638694# US (New York)

This information is also online  
at [www.arden.delaware.gov](http://www.arden.delaware.gov) on  
the Civic Page.

**Attendance:** Steve Benigni, Carol Larson, Rick Ferrell, Harold Kalmus, Mark Wood.

**Call to Order:** Steve called meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

**Approval of Minutes:** January 27, 2021 minutes approved as presented.

## Categories

- Administrative

- Budget Status

Rick submitted an overview of costs through February 11<sup>th</sup> in the amount of \$2,700. Plus, December is \$1,800.

Estimate snow cost per event runs from \$1,000 to \$2,000 but this does not include an estimate for a “big snow” (defined as a dump of at least a foot). Prioritize after the snow season.

- Primary Discussion Issues:

- Snow Plowing and Salting

The main topic of discussion was plowing, salting plans and implementation for next year. Interested in researching alternatives to using rock salt. Calcium Magnesium Acetate (which the county uses) is effective, has less environmental impact, but is more expensive. Brining also has its positives and negatives.

Community feedback differs as to frequency of salting, plowing and under what conditions. Three inches has been the benchmark, but there are other factors that weigh into the decision as to when to plow and salt, which needs to be communicated to the town.

Rick and Brian Burslem are using Delaware Environmental Observing System website ([www.deos.udel.edu](http://www.deos.udel.edu)), which tracks snowfall accumulations in the state by municipality in real time, to assist in their decision-making process. The last few snow falls, Brian used CMA, for which he charged the contractual price (rock salt \$40/bag, & CMA \$50/bag) because rock salt supply was problematic in obtaining. To address supply shortage, recommend that in advance of each season, purchase a pre-determined CMA quantity to store and have readily available. Check to see if Ardentown and Ardencroft would be interested in a joint purchase to take advantage of bulk economies of scale.

The snow contract term stipulates pay based on per bag basis. That means, for each bag, it also includes labor for distribution and no need to track time. Going forward, Rick suggests the committee purchase materials based on a better purchase price and just pay for labor. He points out it's not so much about the savings, as much as concern about supply, especially for a very bad winter.

Rick will check with Jeff about NCC possibly providing support to municipalities in terms of whether providing funds or alternative ice melt..

The Fire Lane access is blocked by the plowed snow. It's been the practice and don't think it is an issue.

The state plows a lot of snow right in front of the Oddporium (Marsh Rd & Sherwood Rd.). Since they pay a commercial rate for that space

and they are limited in their parking as is, Carol suggests asking Brian to sweep snow on side of Sherwood Rd., adjacent to Wayne's leasehold.

- Candidates

**Incumbents:** Rick Ferrell (yes), Harold Kalmus (yes), Mark Wood (yes).

**Nominees:** Ed Rohrbach, Sasha Puranik, and Harold will contact Steve Curley.

Need one more nominee:

Cecilia provided some names: Scott Kushner, Christopher O'Connor, Kelly Gillen, Brian Killian and Iris Roseman.

- Roads

- Marsh Road Fire Lane

- Potholes and Sinkhole

Sinkhole on Millers Road waiting to have a professional evaluation. Skip Bailey requests to put on hold until after March with new budget.

- Master Plan

- Projects / Grants

- Water Management Grant

- Permits / Reservations

- Liz sent a copy of the new redesigned Forest permit form to Steve, who will check it out on the Village website. The Village just made arrangements with Bob Whitehouse to manage Village computers and website. He will address direct on line permit forms with signatures and on-line calendar to be shared by members.

- Maintenance Projects (Status)

- Sign Post Repair & Dave Claney Status

- Signs - The committee members will install the new signs.

- Trash Can Holders

- Tree Work

- White Pine on Village Green

Carol is meeting with Mike Kline on Friday and plans to go over the budget and obtain estimates for the spring work.
- Lower Lane

Near the stile there is a triple leader poplar tree that is dying; Carol believes it's just a matter of time. Estimated cost to remove is \$2,500 to \$3,000. The group officially gave Carol Larson permission to determine its fate and to take care of it.
- Follow-up on Identified Trees – Ron did a lot of clean up (leaning trees) around the back stop on Sherwood Green.
- Greens
  - Carol suggests the Greens need aerating so that the water can infiltrate more. An estimate is needed.
  - Sherwood Green parking area installed a grass seed mat a few years ago. The company contacted Al Marks as a follow up to inquire if we were still satisfied. Also, need to reseed in the spring.
- Seasonal Contract Oversight
- Miscellaneous
  - FOIA Request by Carol DiGiovanni to review snow contract has been fulfilled.
  - Paths remove bike barriers after snow. Not a winter project.

## **Other Old Business**

## **New Business**

**Adjourn** 8:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Elizabeth Resko,  
Village Secretary